



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

ROBERT D. SHEDD, PATENT OPERATIONS
THOMSON LICENSING, LLC
P.O. Box 5312
PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312

MAILED

MAY 21 2010

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Robert J. SNYDER, et al.
Application No. 09/488,578
Filed: January 21, 2000
Attorney Docket No. **1752.0010002**

DECISION ON PETITION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed December 17, 2009, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This application became abandoned as a result of petitioner's failure to file an appeal brief (and fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2)) within the time period provided in 37 CFR 41.37(a)(1). As an appeal brief (and appeal brief fee) was not filed within two (2) months of the Notice of Appeal filed January 5, 2009, and no extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained, the appeal was dismissed and the proceedings as to the rejected claims were terminated. See 37 CFR 1.197(b). As no claim was allowed, the application became abandoned on March 6, 2009. See MPEP 1215.04.

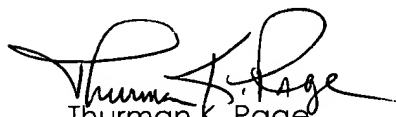
It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the petition was ever given a power of attorney to prosecute the application. If the person signing the petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney document must be submitted.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an appeal brief with fee \$540, (2) the petition fee of \$1620; and (3) an adequate statement of unintentional delay.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Monica A. Graves at (571) 272-7253.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2179 for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the reply received December 17, 2009.


Thurman K. Page
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions